STATE OF WYOMING

COUNTY OF SWEETWATER

TOWN OF SUPERIOR September 8 2022

Mayor D. Wolf called the Council Meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council members present were Councilor N. Root, Councilor J. Pasborg, Mayor D. Wolf. Council members J. Ruby and R. Niemiec were both absent and excused.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor D. Wolf announced that they would need to amend the agenda adding an item the public hearing for the off road ordinance. Councilor N. Root made a motion to amend the agenda adding the off road recreational vehicle statute ordinance number 2022-1083. Councilor J. Pasborg seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor J. Pasborg made a motion to approve the minutes for the August 11th 2022 Council meeting. Councilor N. Root seconded and it passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Councilor J. Pasborg made a motion to approve the bills against the town of Superior for September 8th 2022. Payroll for August 15th and 29th and September 1st of 2022. Councilor N. Root seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

VISITORS

Chris Sutton and were present. Mr. Sutton stated that he was there to talk about helping troubled youth as well as mental health for Deputies and also for people within the community. Mr. Sutton stated that these would be big things that he wants to focus on. He also stated that the last time they were here they didn’t have as much detail and now they do so they wanted to come out and share. Mr. Sutton stated that he and Jon plan on coming out on a regular basis because that’s who they want to be and what they are about is getting out in the community. Mr. Sutton asked if there was any questions that they could answer since they were there. Clerk A.Vaughn stated that she didn’t have any questions pertaining to the last time they were out but that the statement Mr. Sutton had just made interested her because the suicide rate in Wyoming is so high it’s number one in the nation. Mr. Sutton stated that there is a major issue and his main priority is getting back out into the community because he doesn’t believe that they will be able to lower crime without getting to know people on a personal level. He also stated that the suicide rate is just unacceptable and they are not only seeing it with troubled youth but with adults there is a mental health problem that we have that is very alive and well and every time that we approach someone everything that we do they see it and if one thing can trigger something and we wouldn’t even know it. Mr. Sutton stated that they were planning on speaking with Sweetwater school district 1 and implementing some programs because they will start on day one and for the entire four years. He stated that he doesn’t just say these things to get votes and stated that he is passionate about these things. Mr. Sutton stated that not just one person can fix this problem and that if they say they can they’re lying. He stated that he wants to get people involved who are going through struggles with mental health. Mr. Sutton stated that just like the Mayor not just one person can run a town they need help from everyone else. Mr. Sutton stated that he will be there for guidance and leadership but he can’t fix the problem alone. Mr. Sutton stated that there will be debates soon and people will see the differences between himself and Jon and be able to make their own educated decisions but he would like for everyone to know that he is passionate about these two things and he wants to jump in and start doing things right away. Mayor D. Wolf stated that he has heard rumors that the sheriff goes out to Wamsutter quite a bit and asked why that is. Mr. Sutton stated that there is an overtime pay for going to Wamsutter and when he is Sheriff he wants to change that he wants law enforcement there because they care and they want to be there not because there is overtime pay. He stated that when he sends people out he doesn’t want them to just drive through he will have specific priorities for them and he wants them to actually stop through and spend time with people because you can’t affectively make change when you don’t know the people that live in these communities. Mr. Sutton stated that he already has an agenda it’s ready to go. He stated that he isn’t in this for the title or the pay he is in it because he is passionate about serving people. Councilor N. Root asked if there was anything that Mr. Sutton would have done differently during the Covid lockdown. Mr. Sutton answered that he agreed with Jon’s letter the CDC was recommending that we wear a mask that’s not a mandate not a law. He also stated that if he were to go to someone’s residence and they said he needed to wear a mask if he wanted to come in he would because that’s their right it’s their residence and they can ask him to do that same thing with a business nobody forces you and takes away you’re rights as a citizen and to do that is unconstitutional. The CDC and the Government doesn’t dictate what we do and we are free to make those choices. Mr. Sutton stated that he would have sent out the same letter and there is no Sheriff in the conservative state of Wyoming that would not have sent out the exact same things. Mr. Sutton stated that Jon gave himself a 45,000 dollar raise and is now one of the highest paid heads and also gave 3% raises to the patrol deputies but not the detention deputies. Clerk A. Vaughn asked why that is. Mr. Sutton stated that it’s because Jon is a patrol guy and doesn’t think that all deputies should be on the same playing field. Mr. Sutton stated that when he is Sheriff all deputies will be paid the same because it can be just as dangerous inside four walls as it is on the streets. Mr. Sutton stated that there are inmates fighting deputies in the detention center and for Jon to say that the patrol deputies deserve a raise and the detention folks isn’t ok. Mr. Sutton also stated that other than the person who was just permoted to lutienint nobody is very happy with Jon right now. There was as question about the budget for the Sheriff’s office right now and Mr. Sutton stated that he believes it’s somewhere around 29 million. Mr. Sutton stated that Jon has talked about reducing this by 7.5 million and admitted it in an interview. To do this he laid off 14 positions.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Wolf said that we had sent a letter to everyone letting them know that the water rates were going to be going up, asked Clerk A. Vaughn if that was right and if Council had seen that? Clerk A. Vaughn stated that it wasn’t really a letter, but it was on both the invoice and the water calendar she sent out to every customer. Mayor Wolf said he had mentioned having a special meeting about it, but then the Monday following the meeting, he spoke to Anita and LeRoy and there’s some issues with getting the information from the handheld to the computer, so we’re going to have to push that back, and we’ll keep reading meters in the meantime. Question from Bert McCune – did every residence in town have a meter now? Yes. Some discussion regarding getting the information out to every senior citizen that there’s help available, this is very important to Councilor R. Niemiec. Clerk A. Vaughn stated she wasn’t aware of help being available, but Mayor Wolf said he had it and would give it to her Monday, she will definitely make sure it gets sent out.

Mayor Wolf asked Clerk A. Vaughn if he needed a motion for this next item. She said no, he just needs to read it out loud.

1. Mayor D. Wolf then said that the Town of Superior accepts First Bank as their bank.

2. The town has $400.00 petty cash to be used on postage, other fees, etc., and has receipts for all transactions.

3. Disclosure statements, since not everybody is here, we’ll just table that and hopefully, if we do have a special meeting between now and then, we’ll try to get everybody together and get that done, because there are issues, we all need to discuss, so we’ll probably have one. I know I said that last time, but I’m pretty serious about it this time.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Update on property in county. Mayor Wolf said he spoke to the county about this, and they said they would help with the engineering costs and all that stuff, but we have to work around them, so we may have to wait until their schedule eases up, and they’re understaffed, and said they’ll do it on their own time. We would be responsible for water, sewer, and fire lanes, hydrants, getting it all signed and engineered, and he feels this is going to deplete our funds. They said there’s other ways we can do it, bidding processes and all. He showed them one map and kind of told them what we were thinking, and they said it would cost the town a lot of money with engineering costs, etc. they said with the design, because of the hill, but if we could get our grant writer to find us a grant to pay for our subdivision it would be great, but she’s got other more important projects, but it would take longer than selling it as a whole. Councilor R. Niemiec said he didn’t think we were in a hurry; we could approach the grant writer. Councilor N. Root said she felt we could at least talk to her and see what she thinks she could do for us in regard to a grant to help subdivide it. Theressa Wolf asks what we’re engineering. Mayor D. Wolf said land out north, way out by Ozzy Knezovich’s, there’s like 50 acres, into 2.5-acre plots, and another 40 acres we also want to develop.

Visitor Bert McCune asks if she can back up here; about the Community Resource Officer patrolling, is Mayor Wolf going to send a letter to everybody or just kind of surprise them? Mayor Wolf says he’d like to surprise them, but no, he’ll send a letter. Some discussion about how he pulled over their brother and then everything stopped for 3 months while we looked into what he could and couldn’t do. She asked how often he would be out here? Mayor Wolf said he is the town’s guy; he’ll be out here as often as they want him out here. He’s here for the community. Some discussion about this subject. Mayor Wolf said he would like to have him deputized, too.

Back to the county stuff; Mayor Wolf would like to just sell the property outright as he feels it’s going to cost the town too much money, he wants to sell it undeveloped and walk away from it and move onto more important projects. Some discussion about this subject; Councilor R. Niemiec feel it will bring in money for the water we provide. Mayor Wolf feels that we need to move forward with other projects. Some more discussion about this and what the grant writer is working on; she’s very busy. What she is doing for the downtown park to make it ADA compliant, and she’s working on the water transmission line, too. Councilor R. Niemiec feels it should be tabled until everyone is present, Councilor N. Root and Mayor D. Wolf agree.

2. Discussion on pay raise for elected officials is next; Mayor D. Wolf feels we should table this too, until everyone is here. He isn’t sure if this is for council or mayor and wants Council to discuss it. This subject was brought up some time ago by Council and Town Attorney H. Brewster advised what we should do. He is going to recuse himself if it pertains to him; Councilor R. Niemiec says we should table it. Clerk A. Vaughn stated this has been brought up several times over the last 4 years, and it’s her understanding that it was just Dominic, but that doesn't mean it can’t include council, and she needs to know a figure, a dollar amount that they all agree on, to raise him to. Councilor N. Root agrees we should table it. That is fine with her, but if everyone could just start thinking about the figures. Some discussion about this; apparently, they all talked about raising 3% in a budget workshop, but Clerk A. Vaughn doesn’t recall this, but agrees everyone needs to be present. Mayor Wolf states we will table that until all council members are present.

3. The new pumps that were in the budget are all in and working good. Some discussion about flow meters and getting one that can be moved from pump to pump to be able to keep an eye on them all.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Wolf wants to make sure it’s stated that this is the second reading to be on board with the offroad recreation vehicles on town streets. Moved by Councilor N. Root to accept ORDINANCE 2202-1083: AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF SUPERIOR, WYOMING ENACTING REGULATIONS ALLOWING OPERATION OF OFF-ROAD RECREATIONAL VEHICLES ON TOWN STREETS; seconded by Councilor R. Niemiec. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor D. Wolf says we had something come up on Planning & Zoning. We’re going to have some resignations. Tonya, the chairperson on the board, has resigned. He’s going to try to meet with them next week to go over everything. How there’s procedures and what to do. We need to do carbon copies and then getting the actual permit, so we’ll have everything in case the assessor comes, and we’ll have all we need. Try to have this all-ready next week, and whoever’s left on the board, and however we need to fill the chairs, I think we need to just put it out there and see if we can’t get some people interested. He doesn’t want to scare anybody with it. He wants to have basic procedures, and let people know what they’ll most likely be dealing with, such as fences, setbacks, etc. The meeting is next Tuesday, at 7, and if both councilors, who have been on the P & Z board, would be there, he would appreciate it, to help make sure he doesn’t miss anything, it’s been his experience that the same things get missed and wants to eliminate the issues. Theressa Wolf asks if they’re going to go back to permits that were issued in the past where people never finished their projects? Mayor Wolf said he thought they had 3 months to come back and ask for an extension. Councilor N. Root asks if she wants to know there are consequences for unfinished projects? Theressa Wolf says no, but just to tell them to get it done. Some discussion about this ending with Mayor Wolf saying he can’t speak for the board, so whatever they decide to do is what will be done. She says that’s not fair to those people who have finished their projects. More discussion about this subject, and how far back it should go. Councilor R. Niemiec agreed the rules say it’s 3 months, or they have to come back and ask for an extension. More discussion. Bert McCune mentioned when the contractor finished building her deck, he asked when P & Z would be inspecting it and she said they don’t do that, he said it should be done for insurance purposes and he was surprised but what do you do? Mayor Wolf said he thought it worked pretty well for her getting her fence up without having P & Z signing off on it yet…Theressa Wolf said she was talking about the deck and Mayor Wolf replied all of it.

Mayor Wolf asked Council if they had anything else to discuss. Councilor R. Niemiec said he thinks we need to revisit some of our laws in P & Z, because he believes the completion comments brought up something good, and he specified that it’s just volunteers on that board, it’s not like Sweetwater County, they have certified building inspectors, but here, as long as you have your paperwork in, there’s nothing that says they have to go back and check the work. Bert McCune says she understands that, and it happens everywhere else, and she was just bringing it up. Councilor R. Niemiec stated that the board can certainly go back and add or remove some stuff, take it through the council. Some further discussion about this. Mayor Wolf agreed that it should be revisited by P & Z. Councilor N. Root said she’ll be there. Mayor Wolf thinks we need to simplify the language. Councilor R. Niemiec thinks we need to advertise for open positions. They discussed how many open positions there are now – it was decided that it was 3. The subject of the Covenants on Horse Thief came up, with Councilor R. Niemiec clarifying that it differs according to the situation. It basically falls back on the stricter rules. Theressa Wolf said that not all of the Covenants have been followed by the people who live on that street, and what can be done about that? If one person has built a fence too high, and then another person wants to build their fence to the same height he did, even though it goes against the covenants, which one is right? Councilor N. Root thinks the answer would be no, they have to follow the covenants regardless of what someone else did. The question of who wrote the covenants came up, with Theressa Wolf saying it was Rochelle Johnson, who was Mayor of Superior at that time. Mayor Wolf said it wasn’t only Rochelle, there was a committee that did it. Councilor R. Niemiec believes that if everyone who lives there wants to throw them out and follow the P & Z rules, they could do that, but it would have to be agreed upon by all and they would form a committee. Some discussion. Councilor R. Niemiec said if Bert wanted to be on P & Z, he would welcome anybody, and she thanked him.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Moved by Councilor N. Root to approve the department reports; seconded by Councilor R. Niemiec. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Councilor R. Niemiec to go into executive session at 8:03 p.m.; seconded by Councilor N. Root. Motion carried unanimously. Moved by Councilor N. Root to go back into regular session at 8:30 p.m.; seconded by Councilor R. Niemiec. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councilor R. Niemiec to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m.; seconded by Councilor N. Root. Motion carried unanimously.

**BILLS TO BE PAID:**

**CLAIMANT Amount Approved Goods/Services Provided & Purpose**

HILARY BREWSTER $800.00 MONTHLY RETAINER

AMBER GEORGE $800.00 C & P SERVICES

RICK NIEMIEC $100.00 COUNCIL PAY

JAMES PASBORG $100.00 COUNCIL PAY

ANGELIQUE ROOT $100.00 COUNCIL PAY

DOMINIC WOLF $400.00 MAYOR PAY

CANDACE SMITH $400.00 C & P SERVICES

VERIZON $80.54 UTILITY; CELL PHONE FOR CRO

TOS / RESERVE $1,183.81 MONTHLY DEPOSIT

TOS / W / S $1,990.50 MONTHLY W/S UTILITY

WYOMING WORKERS’ COMP. $511.11 MONTHLY PAYMENT

IRS $2,778.04 SEMI-WEEKLY PAYMENT

IRS $1,875.21 SEMI-WEEKLY PAYMENT

AMAZON $129.75 P & S

BATTERY SYSTEMS $65.50 P & S

BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD $2,546.92 INSURANCE PREMIUM

CAPITAL ONE $116.64 P & S

CASELLE $160.00 C & P SERVICES

COPIER & SUPPLY $2.86 C & P SERVICES

CENTURY EQUIPMENT $1,348.46 P & S

HOMAX $1,266.28 UTILITY

HOME DEPOT $1,996.84 P & S

KAYLA MANNIKKO $140.00 C & P SERVICES (GRANT WRITER)

MOUNTAINLAND SUPPLY CO. $1,584.49 P & S

MURDOCH’S $159.90 P & S

NAPA $71.87 P & S

NORCO $83.98 P & S

PREMIER POWERPLANTS & PUMPS $9,114.51 C & P SERVICES

ROCK SPRINGS WINNELSON $1,425.15 P & S

ROCKY MTN. AIR SOLUTIONS $132.00 P & S

RON’S ACE RENTAL $2,082.11 P & S

SAGE ELECTRIC SOLUTIONS $9,092.00 C & P SERVICES

SHADOW MTN. WATER $38.00 P & S

STANDARD PLUMBING SUPPLY $20.37 P & S

SUNROC $156.13 P & S

SWTS $1,391.18 C & P SERVICES

UNITED RENTALS $4,261.13 P & S

UNITED SITE SERVICES $313.65 C & P SERVICES

USA BLUEBOOK $1,941.98 P & S

U.S. BANK $117.54 P & S

WINSUPPLY $158.20 P & S

WYDOT $10.00 PLATES FOR 2 NEW (USED) VEHICLES

WYOMING WASTE SERVICES $421.38 C & P SERVICES

WYOMING RENTS $5,414.00 P & S

WYOMING DEPT OF REVENUE $2,021.59 YEARLY SALES & USE TAXES

SUMMIT WEST CPA GROUP, P.C. $1,232.00 HELP W/ QUICK BOOKS ERRORS

CENTURYLINK $388.72 UTILITY

ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER $3,841.11 UTILITY

UMB CARD SERVICES $787.34 P & S

REBEKAH HOLT $200.00 DEPOSIT RETURNED ON RENTAL OF NEW BUILDING

PAYROLL: AUGUST 15 & 29, 2022

Sheri Niemiec $1,864.80 Donna O’Banion-Taebel $463.60

Ross Sheely $2,544.76 Amanda Souther $187.65

Teresa Stolt $1,814.35 Anita Vaughn $2,640.12

Travis Wagner $3,460.80 LeRoy Winters $3,625.60

ATTEST:

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Town Clerk Mayor